

CONTACTS 接觸

雜誌 *magazine*

October–November '96

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PARTY

OF

ONE

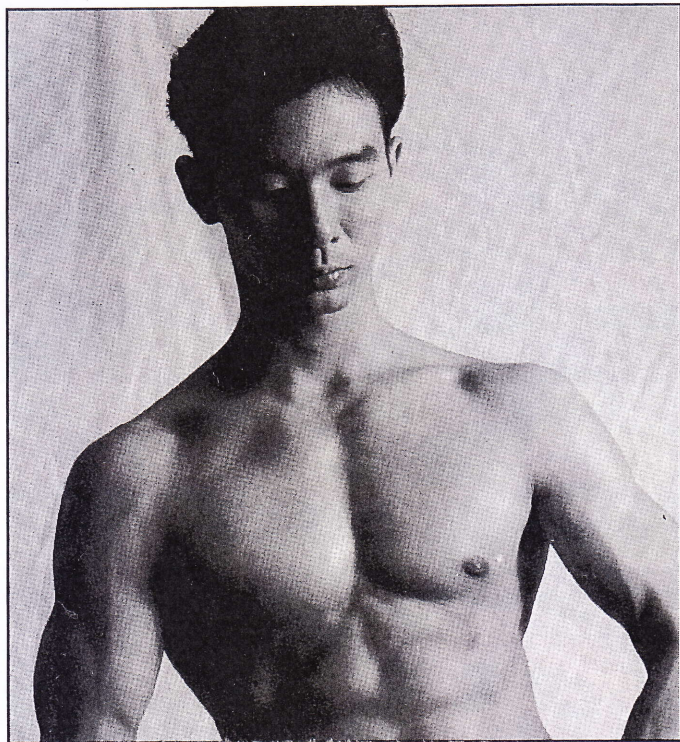
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There are heaps of Gay journalists throughout the world who have been struggling with the thorny problem of what to do about Jack Kemp, the man that Republican Bob Dole has chosen as his running mate for the US presidential elections in November.

Clearly, in view of Kemp's anti-Gay political record, he'd be a prime target for outing if he was Gay. However, although there are many rumours, nobody seems to be able to prove them 100%.

Kemp, 53, is married with four children – but that, as we all know, doesn't mean he hasn't had sex with men!

But the Internet has been humming for the past few weeks with stories of his alleged past sexual habits. According to one anonymous poster: "Speaking of my years prowling Greenwich Village, I'm amazed that Dole has picked Jack Kemp as a running mate. He used to prowl the same streets as, and in at least three cases picked up the same men, I did."

There are also a number of different anonymous sources that have confirmed seeing Kemp coming out of a Gay club or, in some cases, approaching them for sex in the 70's.

The tale has surfaced inconclusively in the past. In 1967, when Kemp was working for Ronald Reagan (the then Governor of California) he was alleged to have been involved in a wild Gay party at a ski cabin, which he partly owned with several Gay men, in Lake Tahoe. Subsequently, two Gay men were fired by Reagan, but Kemp kept his job after denying any Gay sexual orientation.

A few papers, Gay and straight, have run with the story. But unless a credible witness emerges who has actually had sex with Kemp, it looks like this one will go the way of the rumours about Dan Quayle in 1988.

Which is all probably just as well. I mean, would you be happy to find out that Michael Suen was a Gay man? There are some people that we just don't want in our tribe.

Volume 4 No.7

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CONTACTS 接觸
雜誌 *magazine*

October–November '96

Tel: (852)-2817-9447

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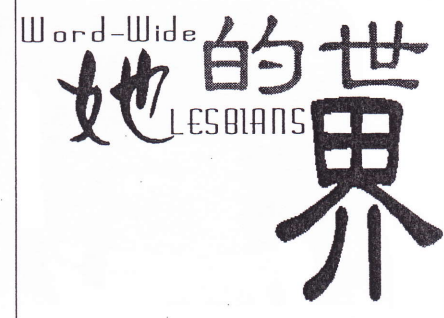
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Party Of One

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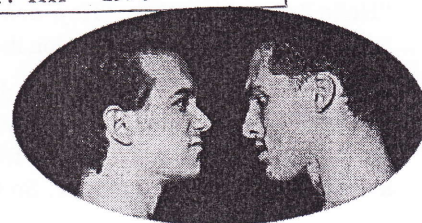


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A Lesbian World

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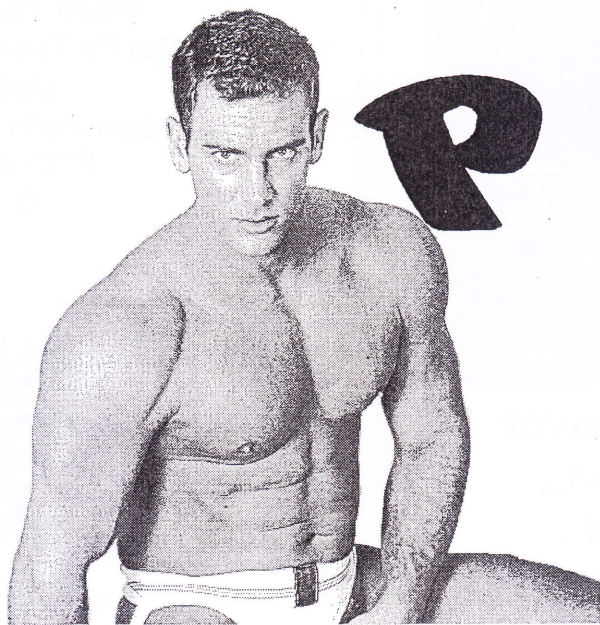


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Paris and Jackson

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PARTS

Okay. Let's get the
sad bit out of the
way right now.

I was in a long-term relationship for nearly nine years, then he had the nerve to up and die on me. Blah-blah-blah and boo-hoo-hoo. That's not the point.

The point is, that when you are in a monogamous relationship with someone for that long, you forget stuff about being single. Such as how to: Flirt shamelessly. Tell when someone is flirting with you. Walk up to a complete, but cute, stranger and say, "Hello." Say things like, "Hey, don't I know you from somewhere" with a (you should pardon the expression) straight face.

Most of these I was never that good at before I was in a long-term relationship. I mean, my "Gay-Dar" is in such sad shape that I didn't realise that a female friend of mine was dating a switch hitter until he hit on me. So there.

You also lose other things when you're in an on-going relationship—not bad losses, mind you, but losses none the less. You get so used to having someone else around all the time, so you forget:

How to enjoy your own company. That living alone can be a challenge, but it can also be quite nice. How to pick up the phone, call a friend, and say, "I'm bored, let's go do something." That it's perfectly all right to go to a movie, play, or out to dinner, even if you don't have someone to go with.

Of course, I also forgot how to take care of plants (it wasn't my chore), so I've made slowly torturing so-called "indestructible" plants into an art form. I've got green fingers now: Give me a week, and I'll take off the leaves.

For me, dining out alone was a major challenge. I dreaded those

words, muttered by hosts and hostesses around the world, like an indictment of my social life: "table for one?" Why not blast it through the public address system and let the whole restaurant know I'm a loser?

I was so afraid of my own people-meeting skills, yet so desperate for a date, that instead of at least trying on my own, I answered a personal's advert. Now, I am sure that there are catches to be had in the personals—nice, non-psychopathic men looking for an honest relationship. But, of my own experience, I can only say, "The horror, the horror." I can't even remember his name. I've blocked it. That should tell you something.

We played it by the rules: a short first meeting in a public place, with an option to extend the meeting. We met in a coffee house for an after work cappuccino. Very 90's, very "Friends." Except he wasn't Ross, or even Ross's monkey.

I tell you, it was like talking to the "Rain Man." He kept repeating things over and over. It wasn't quite, "I'm an excellent driver a very excellent driver," but it may as well have been.

I mean, you have to know you're in trouble when he leaves to go to the bathroom and all the other men at the bar just look at you and shake their heads. All of them. (I swear I'm not making this up.)

And me, schmuck that I am, was sitting there thinking, "Okay, he's no prize, but he'll do-until the real thing comes along." Then he came back. Then he opened his mouth again, and again, and again, like a record stuck in a groove.

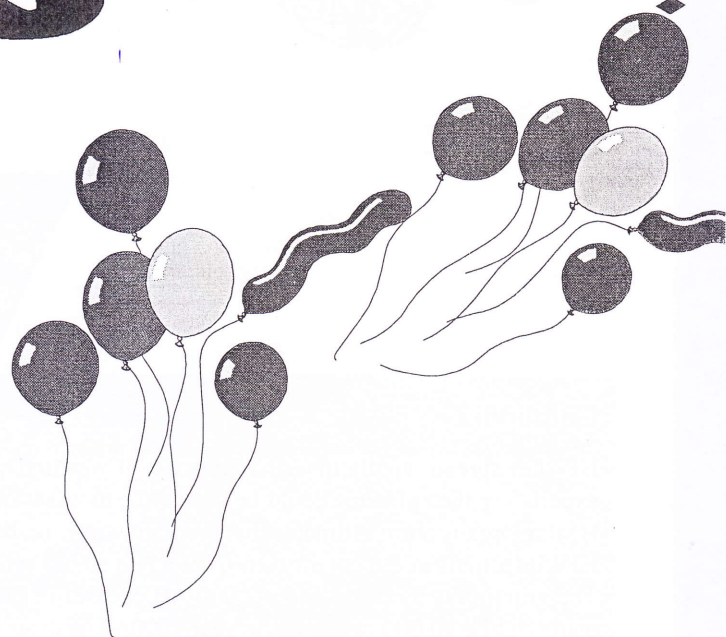
That's when it hit me.

Party of ONE

I don't have to settle for him. I don't have to compulsively date (or bed) whatever comes along. Something isn't always better than nothing. There isn't anything wrong with being a party of one. It doesn't mean you're anti-social, or don't play well with others, it just means that you bring your own fun with you. You aren't a party waiting to happen, you are a party: alone, paired up, or in a crowd.

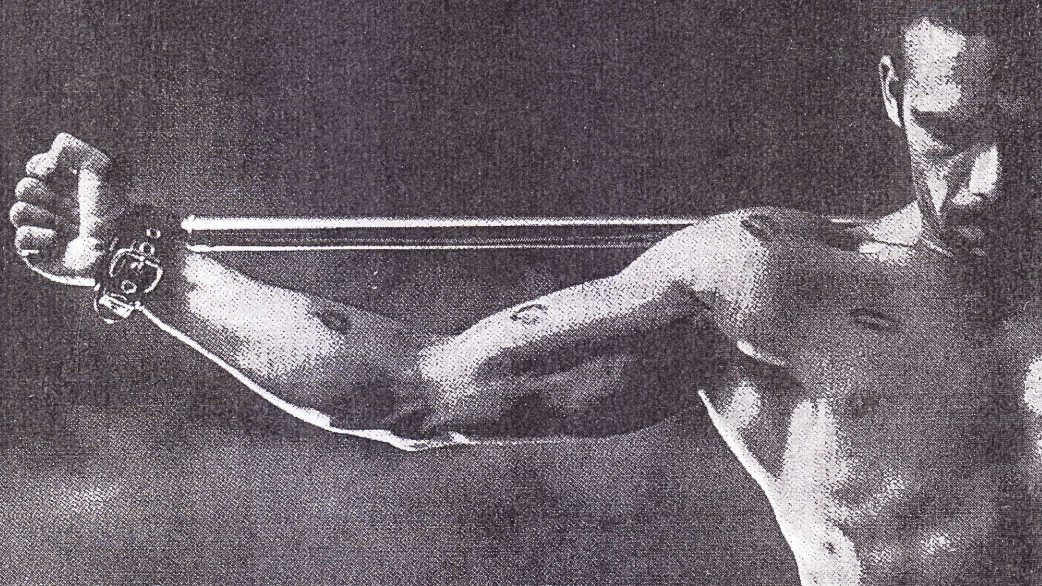
I didn't exercise my option to extend the meeting. I left and went out to dinner instead.

When the maitre'd asked, "Party of one?" I said, "Yes, I am."



Clothing and accessories for girls and boys from fashion to fantasy to serious toys

If you love someone, set them free.



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Fetish
Magazine

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Austria

On 31st August, two Lesbians celebrated their partnership who blessed them in a Lutheran church in Vienna according to Guenter Strobl of the Vienna Gay and Lesbian Association. Although the Lutheran Superintendent refused to allow the blessing, the priest refused to follow the order. The ceremony attracted many media people, although the couple refused to take pictures of their "wedding" because of fear of discrimination. And on September 2nd, another Gay couple in Graz was able to find a Lutheran priest to bless their partnership. They claimed they are the first Lesbians to be blessed by a priest in Austrian history.

Singapore

Singapore has set guidelines for banning some Gay sites on Internet reports John Goss. Items include "contents which depict or propagate sexual perversions such as homosexuality, Lesbianism and paedophilia." "Singapore is hardly likely to respond to outside pressure on this matter. However, if Gay and Lesbian liberation is going to take place it is likely to follow the Hong Kong model rather than the West. It seems that useful persuasion from Hong Kong (Chinese) Gay and Lesbian spokespeople would have a powerful effect" he said.

Cambodia

HIV has spread rapidly in Cambodia since it was first screened for in 1991, and experts say the epidemic could be one of the most serious in Asia. The World Health Organisation estimates that there may now be between 100,000 and 150,000 HIV infections in the country, up from a November estimate of 50,000 to 90,000. The group says there are about 2,000 AIDS cases in Cambodia and predicts that there will be 40,000 cases by the year 2000. The disease is spreading faster in Cambodia than in any other Asian nation, except Burma and India.

Korea

South Korea has one out Gay activist, according to a profile in the August issue of the Australian Gay magazine *Outrage*. Seo Dong-Jin, 32, came out publicly in 1994 and has since appeared regularly in the media, published a Gay book and lectured on sexuality at colleges nation-wide. The only other Gay activity in Seoul, a city of 12 million people, is 20-30 small Gay bars and three university social groups (at Yonsei, Korea, and Seoul National universities), *Outrage* reported. It's not easy being first, Seo said. "If I say I'm Gay, they think I must be a transvestite."

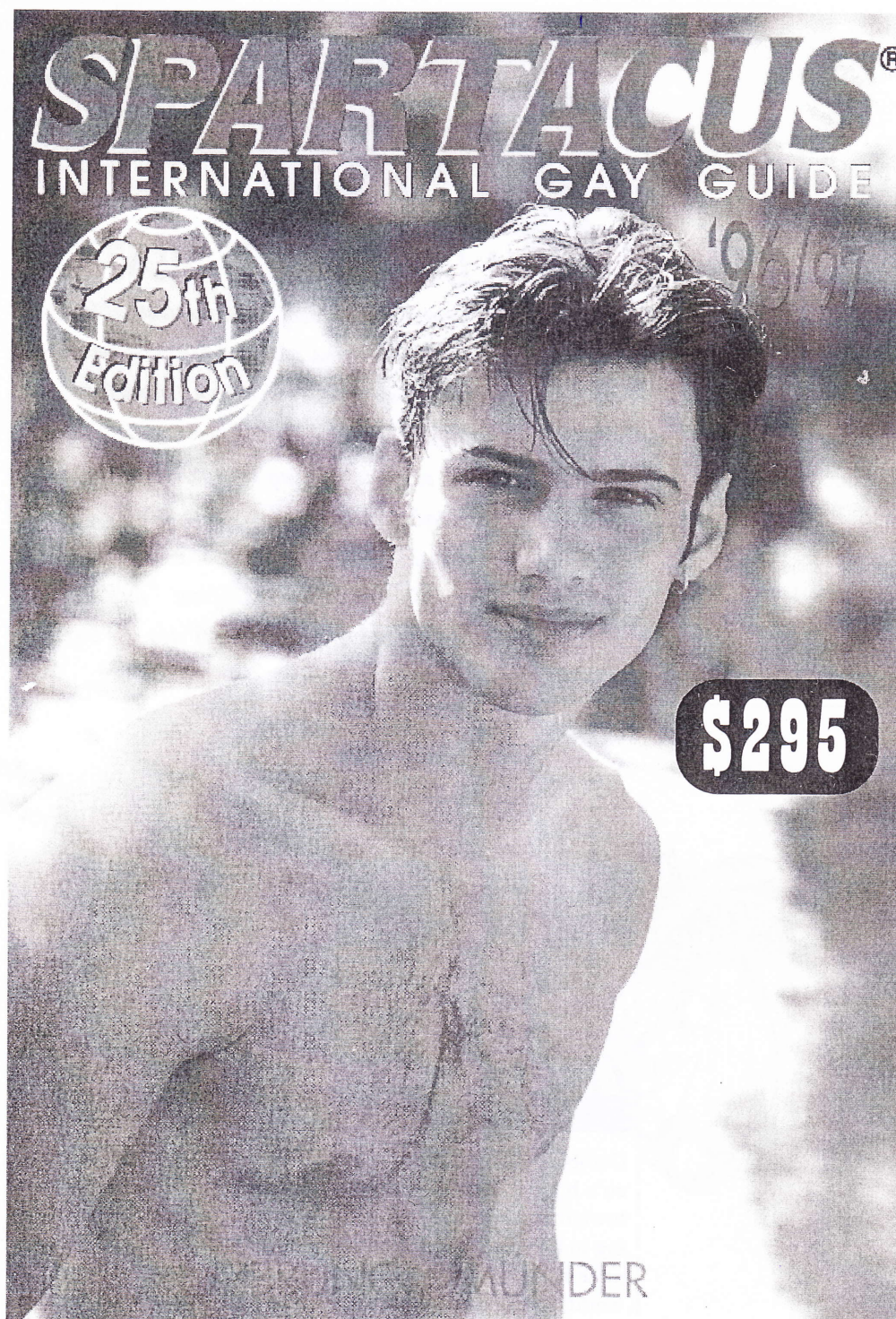
Caribbean

In August the first conference to explore issues affecting Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals in the Caribbean was held in Jamaica. Over 14 Caribbean countries were represented, with support of an even broader group of countries and territories. The conference was held with the financial and technical assistance of the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. In addition to sharing the ideas of each territory conference participants were able to plan educational strategies for the different territories. A steering committee of representatives of four countries (Jamaica, Trinidad, Surinam, Netherlands Antilles) is co-ordinating the different tasks that were set out and preparing next year's conference in Curacao (Netherlands Antilles).

Six Nations

There are six countries where Gays and Lesbians can immigrate to be with a citizen of that nation who is their lover, according to a new report from the International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA). They are Australia, Denmark, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway and Sweden. In addition, Canada and the United Kingdom permit such immigration on a case-by-case basis. ILGA also reported that 11 countries officially welcome Gays and Lesbians in their militaries: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Israel, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway and Sweden.

The Internationally acclaimed Gay
guide covers all major cities and
countries world-wide.



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Scene Around 香港

COSMOS BOOKSHOP

Thanks to readers who told us that Cosmos bookshop no longer sell *Contacts Magazine*. We're glad to say that they do but you really have to know where they keep it. You'll find *Contacts Magazine* on the first floor of the bookshop on the right hand side, bottom shelf at the end nearest the cashier...if you still can't find it please ask the cashier who will, we hope, be only too pleased to help.

Hong Kong 10% Club

are looking to recruit volunteers who have some Internet knowledge.

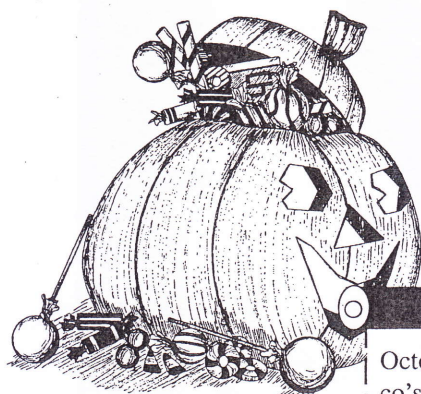
The plan is to establish the club's homepage on the Net.

Contact: Zoe Wong
(zoewong@hkstar.com)
or call 2314 8726.



LUI TUNG YUEN

A new Lesbian self help organisation, Lui Tung Yuen, has started for and by women who love women. The aim of the group is to help each other by support and sharing. They are organising a number of activities to highlight the psycho-social needs of women. Their address is PO Box 266, Texaco Road Post Office, Tsuen Wan, NT. Pager 7112 8936 a/c 7706.

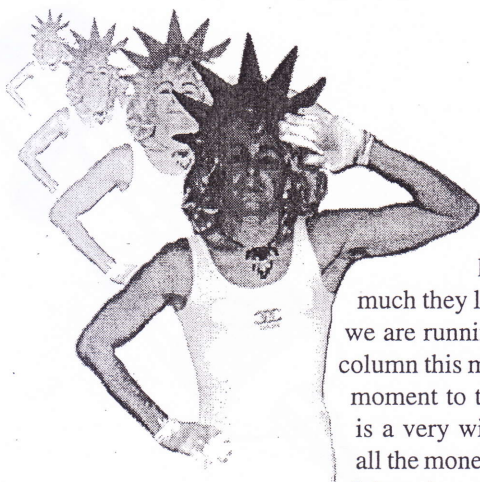


Horizons
As well as now being available four nights a week, Monday - Thursday the telephone number for Horizons is now 2815-9268.

Propaganda

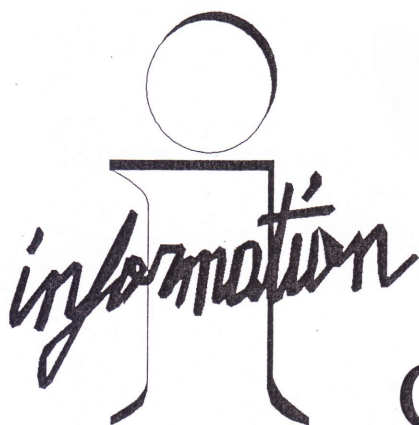
October 31st -Halloween-will see Hong Kong's only Gay disco's biggest party of the year, and some of the best prizes in town for those brave souls who dare to tempt the Gods by dressing in the most bizarre and outlandish costumes. This year first prize is two economy class return air tickets to anywhere in the world. There are also very good prizes for 2nd and 3rd runners up. And, say management, there are even more consolation prizes than last year. Be warned though that things do get a little scary on the night that all the devils are free on the earth!

Sunday opening As from Mid-October Propaganda will open every Sunday evening. The surprise change in policy is due to the appointment of a new bar manager.



So many people have told us how much they love Fifi's column that we are running a special two page column this month. It is also a good moment to tell you that Fifi, who is a very willing volunteer, takes all the money for sales of Contacts Magazine at 97's happy hour and

donates it to the work of the Gay Coalition.



Going to Thailand?

If you are even thinking of going to Thailand soon then you really need to read this book first. Written by Eric Allyn a long time resident of Bangkok, *The Men of Thailand*, is a wonderful guide to Thailand. If you have never been to Thailand, but thinking of going then you're sure to get itchy feet looking at this book, which book is essential reading for anybody wanting to explore the Gay Thai culture. Full of hints and tips and phrases you really should try and get this book before you go.. And just to make you think, the following item appeared on CNN recently 'Transvestite Volleyball Team claim Discrimination: Thailand's Top-All-Transvestite Volleyball Team claim they have been kept out of the national men's team because of their sexual preferences rather than a lack of skill. The twelve men - who have had plastic surgery, grown breasts and wear heavy make-up - represent Lampang Province. Last week they won the gold medal in Men's Volleyball at the National Games.' *Men of Thailand* Published by Floating Lotus, available from Island Publishing Company Limited HK\$240.00 (allow six weeks for delivery).

QUOTES ONOLES

What they said...

Women constitute half the world's population, perform nearly two-thirds of its work hours, receive one-tenth of the world's income and own less than one-hundredth of the world's property.

United Nations report, 1980.

Feminism encourages women to leave their husbands, kill their children, practice witchcraft, destroy capitalism and become Lesbians.

Rev. Pat Robertson, 1992.

I have never been able to find out precisely what feminism is: I only know that people call me a feminist whenever I express sentiments that differentiate me from a doormat.

Rebecca West, 1913.

"If male homosexuals are called 'Gay,' then female homosexuals should be called 'ecstatic.'"

Shelly Roberts' book "Roberts' Rules of Lesbian Living".

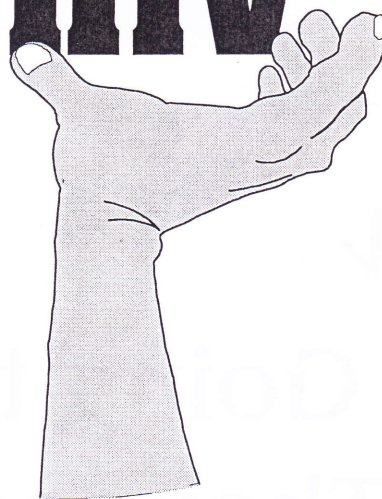
"Just by being out you're doing your part. It's like recycling, you're doing your part for the environment if you recycle; you're doing your part for the Gay movement if you're out."

Martina Navratilova to San Francisco Bay Times.

"There are approximately twice as many Gay men as Lesbians in any given population [according to author Chandler Burr]. This actually isn't a new statistic. It mirrors what every survey of sexuality has shown from Kinsey on. But there is an ideological taboo against talking about it. If we recognize that there are half as many lesbians as gay men (leaving aside the fact that lesbianism is less fixed than Gay male sexuality), then what happens to all those ubiquitous demands that lesbians be given parity in all Gay organizations. Did I say parity? The demand is often that women be given primacy to make up for past 'oppression' within the movement."

Gay columnist Stephen Miller.

Chilean Government Infects People With HIV



On August 5 in Santiago, a group of 37 Chilean prisoners were moved from one prison to another. Prison officials did this to avoid a court-ordered investigation of the atrocious living conditions of Gay prisoners. The records accompanying the transfer clearly shows that 22 of the 37 had HIV.

When they arrived at the prison, the men were ordered to strip and were given an HIV test. All the prisoners said that the prison medic only used 10 needles for all 37 prisoners, knowing that 22 were already infected with HIV.

Trinidad Lathrop of Centro Lambda Chile, the lawyer who asked for the investigation of the conditions, visited some of the prisoners on August 8 who told her the story. She also spoke to the medic who gave the tests, and he flatly denied the prisoners' version and stated that clean needles were used.

After repeatedly trying to contact the Chief Medical Officer of Chilean prisons and receiving no response, Tomas Hirsch,

Humanist Party President, and Trinidad Lathrop held a press conference where they asked that a through investigation be made regarding the prisoners accusations. The Chilean and international press gave this news item widespread coverage including an article in the New York Times on August 13.

On August 12, an indignant National Director of the Chilean Prisons, Mr. Martinez, gave a press conference intended to show how the procedures used in Chilean prisons would not allow such a gross crime. After the press conference, a lawsuit was filed against Tomas Hirsch for defamation of character.

On August 13, Tomas Hirsch, Trinidad Lathrop and Roberto Pablo, President of Centro Lambda Chile visited the prisoners to obtain written testimony. They were allowed to speak to only 6 of the 37. All six gave the same testimony that only 10 needles had been used to test all

37 inmates. While they were at the prison, the chief medical officer called them to his office. He told them an investigation had taken place and that he was were there while the test was being given, and 37 needles were used.

"If these accusations are true, this is a crime against humanity." This case is probably only the tip of the iceberg, regarding prisoner's treatment with HIV throughout the world, and in Chile in particular said a spokesperson for Humanist Party.

"Certainly, when it comes to HIV care, many so called developing nations have the resources to provide first class medical treatment but they chose to spend those resources elsewhere. This in itself is a crime against humanity".

*Reviewed by Tomas Hirsch President of the
Humanist Party in Chile*

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我們會聆聽你的擔憂和解答你的疑問，而且所有在愛滋病熱線內傾談的內容絕對保密，包括閣下的身份。同樣，我們可以安排閣下做抗體測試，使閣下明白自己的HIV情況，如閣下是愛滋病帶菌／病患者更可參加我們的支持小組，使用我們的活動中心，還可收到Positive Link newsletter及PWA指南一書，我們會陪伴著你，去醫院或到住所探望你，假如閣下有需要申請援助金，我們可以為你申請。

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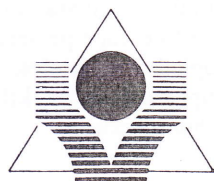
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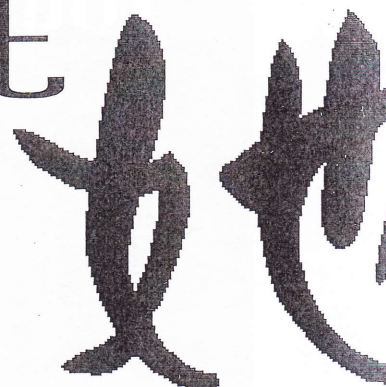


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WORLD - WIDE



During the past ten years the concept that every individual is entitled to certain basic rights has gained much ground. Lesbians can use the many international agreements (especially the documents that came out of last year's UN Human Rights Conference, which recognised violence against women as a serious human rights abuse) on human rights to argue for our rights.

Lesbian rights are often seen as a "luxury" or of secondary importance, or as somehow trivial when compared to the struggles for survival many peoples face. This ignores the fact that Lesbians are among all people, including those facing life and death struggles. Indeed, Lesbians are often in the forefront of fights for independence and self-determination, especially women's self-determination. "When I speak of my right to my own culture and language as an indigenous woman, everyone agrees to my self-determination," said one Peruvian Lesbian recently. "But when I speak of my other identity, my Lesbian identity, my right to love, to determine my own sexuality, no one wants to listen."

We do not want to ignore the great strides Lesbians have made in the last few decades. In some countries (Denmark, Sweden, Norway) it is illegal to make insulting remarks or to incite hatred against Lesbians. In others (France, the Netherlands, Sweden) it is illegal to discriminate against Lesbians in employment. In some countries and municipalities Lesbian partnership are recognised and granted the same rights as heterosexual couples. A few countries (Canada, the USA, Sweden, the Netherlands) have accepted homosexuals asylum seekers. In some places outspoken Lesbians have been elected to important political positions, or have won the right to adopt and foster children, or to marry. There are active Lesbians in groups on every continent.

The following survey focuses, however, on the abuses that still go on in many countries. We do this in order to show that Lesbian rights are no "luxury", but an absolute necessity. Losing our jobs, our children and in some cases, our lives, is not trivial or secondary. If we belong to an already marginalised group (for example, if we are HIV+, in prison, disabled or belong to a racial or ethnic minority) our Lesbianism may place us in an even more vulnerable position. Unequal power relationships and lack of legal protection make us vulnerable, not the fact that we love women.

But just what are Lesbian human rights? What are our demands? What do we need in order to live our lives in the best ways we can? To answer questions like these we need to look at the realities of our lives, and the ways Lesbians around the world are resisting oppression.

In Peru, Lesbians are subjected to arbitrary arrest, often by state agents such as the police or military.

In Canada, imported Lesbian books have been seized by Customs officials.

In Colombia, Lesbians have been the victims of death squads. In Brazil, a gay person is killed almost every week.

In Greece, the Lesbian editor of a homosexual magazine was fined and sentenced to jail (after she asked heterosexual men to stop writing the magazine to ask for contacts with Lesbians).

In New Zealand, the Police Department bans Lesbians from police service.

In Iran, Lesbians have been flogged and executed for having sex with other women and for trying to organise a Lesbian and gay rights group. A few Iranian Lesbians have been granted asylum in Sweden and the Netherlands and allowed to stay in those countries in order to escape persecution. In the Occupied Territories, the political group Hamas has killed Palestinian homosexuals.

A BRIEF SURVEY

In Australia, a recent national survey showed shocking levels of violence against Lesbians, with almost one Lesbian out of ten reporting experiencing violence.

In China, the International Lesbian and Gay Human Rights Commission reports that electroconvulsive therapy and administration of medicines that induce vomiting are currently being used in China to 'cure' homosexuality. In rural areas especially, women may be forced into marrying men they do not want to marry.

白的世界 LESBIANS

In the UK, Lesbian mothers have been denied custody of their children, denied access to reproductive technology, and non-British partners of British Lesbians denied permission to stay in the UK.

In Chile, Lesbian activists have received death threats, again for daring to exercise their right to expression and assembly. Penal Code Article 365 criminalised Lesbian sex.

In Romania, Lesbians can still be jailed for several years for sex with another woman.

In India, Lesbians have joined in the demand to repeal Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code (which provides a maximum 10-year jail sentence for "carnal intercourse against the order of nature") and to stop police harassment.

In Germany, in Berlin, threats have been received by an out Lesbian politician and a Lesbian archives has been burglarised.

In the USA, a 1984 study in eight US cities reported that nearly one in ten Lesbians experienced being punched, hit, kicked or beaten at least once in their lives because of their sexual orientation.

One of the most basic human rights is the right to live without fear of physical violence or arbitrary arrest. It is clear from the evidence that many Lesbians do not have these rights. Some other areas of concern are:

Visibility. One of the biggest obstacles many Lesbians face is lack of visibility. This invisibility means we are denied important information about ourselves. We are not taught our history in schools, our books and music are censored, our very existence is denied.

This silence perpetuates two of the most destructive myths about Lesbians. The first myth is that we simply do not exist. The second myth is that, if we do exist, we are a white Western import. Both these myths are damaging to millions of Lesbians around the world. They perpetuate our invisibility, and hence, the discrimination many Lesbians face regularly.

Family. The UN Declaration of Human Rights speaks of the

right to a family and this year has been declared the UN Year of the Family. The lack of legal protection for Lesbian partnership splits many Lesbian families apart: unfair immigration and asylum laws mean many Lesbians are denied residence permits; even in countries where same-sex relationships are legally recognised, Lesbians are denied permission to adopt children (in some cases, even the children of their partners). In many countries, Lesbians are denied custody rights to their children.

Lesbians are also denied access to reproductive technology which could help them become mothers. There have been proposals to deny Lesbians access to artificial insemination in five West European countries. Recently in the Netherlands, a major medical centre (facing a shortage of sperm donors) has placed Lesbians at the bottom of the waiting list for artificial insemination.

Health. Lesbians frequently face ignorance or hostility when we turn to medical practitioners in our countries. Sometimes our Lesbianism is even classed as a psychiatric disorder, which may result in forced institutionalisation and treatment. In few countries are there adequate health care services for Lesbians. AIDS is one of the biggest health crises facing the world today, yet the international and national institutions involved in documentation and research totally ignore Lesbians. No one knows if woman-to-woman transmission is possible or even how many Lesbians are HIV+; safe sex and prevention programs also ignore Lesbians.

Discrimination against Lesbians hurts all women, not only women whose primary relationship is with another woman. Any woman who chooses not to marry or live with a man, who speaks out in support of her own and other women's rights, can be silenced and intimidated by being called a Lesbian. We have seen a recent example of this at the Latin American and Caribbean Feminist Conference in El Salvador, where anti-feminist forces tried to undermine the Conference by calling participants Lesbians, and where single women arriving from outside the country were subject to police questioning.

If one person's human rights can be denied, then the rights of all people are threatened. It is time that Lesbian rights are placed on the human rights agenda, and that human rights groups and women's groups become allies with Lesbian organisations to accomplish this. Lesbian rights are a question of human rights and women's self-determination.



Xq28

by Barrie Brandon

Vittoria D'allessio used to be one of the star writers for the now, sadly, defunct *Eastern Express* that she could be relied upon to turn out a decent, well-balanced, article was never an issue. But she surpassed herself in an article in the *South China Morning Post* magazine, September 15th, involving the Gay gene.

The article wasn't particularly news to me...we wrote about it in October 1995. And much of the article is based around what we said then. What was new though was that here was a mainstream writer, now resident in the UK writing a fair and frank article on things that concerned us here in Hong Kong.

There is, she wrote, only one way to tell if a person is Gay. Ask him. And if he tells a lie, well, it's too bad, because there is no medical examination, no X-ray, no scan, no blood test and no biopsy that will reveal the truth. Yet.

The scientific breakthrough comes courtesy of Dr Dean Hamer, a molecular geneticist from the National Institute of Health in Bethesda, who has discovered a section on the X chromosome called Xq28 that is home to a gene he has named Gay-1. This minuscule scrap of DNA, according to Hamer's findings, has the power to make men Gay.

And further down the road, who knows, homosexuals may be bullied into genetic

surgery to remedy "nature's little mistake", their Gay genes zapped through sophisticated engineering to "restore" their bodies to a state of healthy heterosexuality.

Yet despite the threats, much of the Gay world feels vindicated by Hamer's (as yet unconfirmed) findings. American Gay science writer Chandler Burr explains why: "If homosexuality is genetic, it shifts the responsibility from the person to that person's genes."

One thing never disputed is the nature of homosexuality. It is, say the experts, a sexual, erotic and romantic orientation toward the opposite sex. They also agree that you do not consciously decide on your sexual orientation, and that very few people have been able to change it, despite spending years and thousands of dollars in psychotherapy.

And it is over these fundamental tenets that scientists part ways with political conservatives and their time-honoured beliefs that homosexuality is a lifestyle not a sexual orientation; that it is a chosen, alternative behaviour or a mental pathology unworthy of civil rights protections, and that homosexuality is curable.

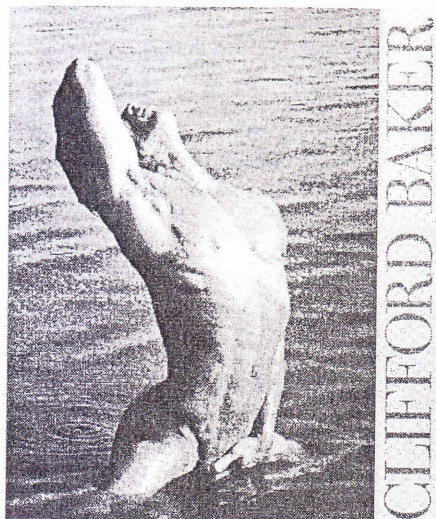
In Britain, the Reverend John MacDonald Smith also anticipates a more understanding future. "Evangelical fundamentalists talk about curing and changing homosexuality, but if there was a scientific basis to it, they would have to stop," he said. "It just takes a bit of time for folk to wrap their minds around different ideas, but I have found that eventually people can be persuaded to be more tolerant and accepting."

As we said in our editorial in October 1995...For most of you, hiding has come easy. Don't want to face being called names? Unless you're wearing a Gay pride shirt, you'll probably just blend right in. Someone makes an anti-gay joke? Just keep your mouth shut and laugh along with everyone else. Unknowing parents coming to visit? Just turn off the camp and put your 'roommate' back into his/her bedroom. And you'll probably remain safely hidden.

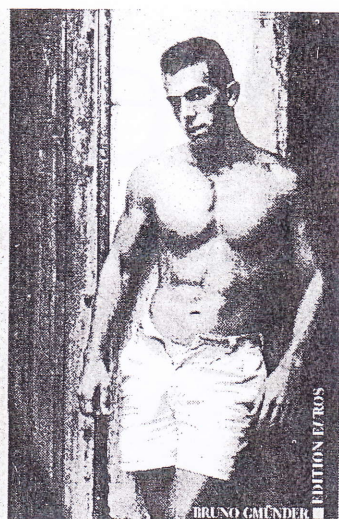
Now the shield we use is being battered away. As the search of the Gay gene draws us closer and closer to finding a biological basis of homosexuality, along with that goes our ability to hide.



(Front page of SCMP Magazine 15th September)



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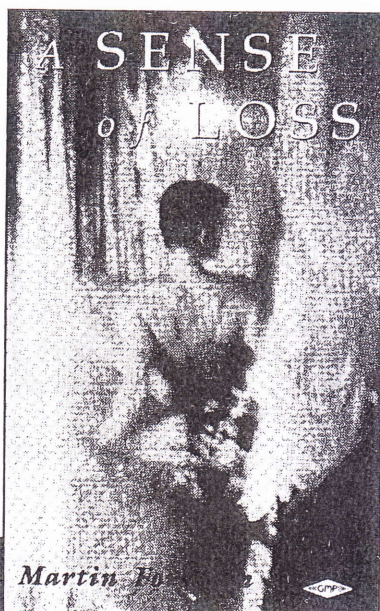
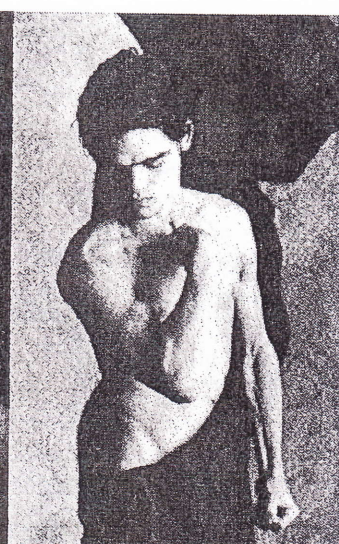
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We Need Friends



by Robin Adams

Robin Adams recently asked the University of Hong Kong sociologist Dr. Chau Wa-shan whether he thought the equal rights movement in Hong Kong was making much progress. Chau denied the validity of using such a dichotomy in Chinese culture. "In Chinese culture, surely there are homo and hetero sexual acts. But there is no cultural paradigm that allows for the classification of people into either homosexuals or heterosexuals. Chinese culture is just too different from western society to be able to clearly explain why this is so."

Chau told the South China Morning Post, "Mainstream Western culture has led to tremendous homophobia in Hong Kong." According to Chau, traditional Chinese culture is quite tolerant of same sex relationships, especially among women. That is to say, as long as those involved didn't force others to deal with it, and kept it in the back room out of sight.

Chau claims that the eventual goals for the equal rights movement for Lesbians and Gays in Hong Kong are the same as those in Western cultures; full legal recognition of our relationships, protection from antiGay bias in the form of legislation, and general re-integration into the mainstream society, just as those who write with their left hand have been. Perhaps it is true that same sex activity is looked at with a blind eye in Asian cultures, even among men and women that are legally married to members of the opposite sex. But does this mean that as long as we enter into opposite sexed marriage, and limit our excursions to one of Hong Kong's saunas we'll be "tolerated" and should therefore be content? Are we willing and ready to accept this level of tolerance if it means that we must maintain this personal and socially inferior back room existence?

Chau admits that there is a pervasive misunderstanding in Hong Kong that people from Western cultures much more readily discuss topics of sex than Hong Kong people. Local queers claim that the topic of "sex" is not discussed as openly in Asian cultures, and consequently the issues of equal rights in Hong Kong have not progressed as quickly or as far as in Europe and North America. The underlying assumption must be that gweilos sit around and discuss sex with Mom and Dad, but parents of Asian descent would find this objectionable.

A spokesman for Hong Kong's Gay Coalition asserts the issue of sex itself is an unimportant if not completely irrelevant topic when discussing queer politics. "If Chau wants to claim that traditional Chinese cultures were tolerant simply by virtue of a few of the emperors concubines having the occasional romp in the pagoda, he's got quite a long way to go in the understanding of what being queer is all about."

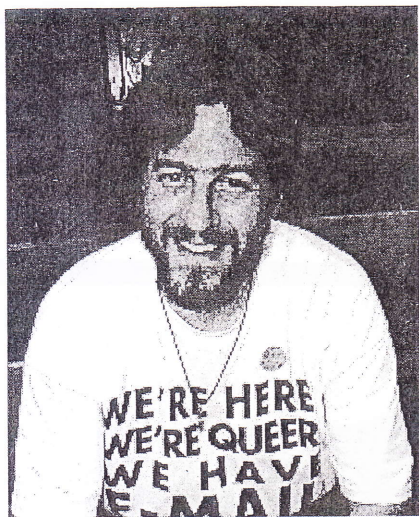
Chau asserts that "in Europe and the States, you come out to yourself, your Gay friends, your straight friends, your family, and then you have a parade. This is the formula, and elsewhere it may be productive, but in Hong Kong it simply won't work." He claims that a more circumspect approach needs to be taken in Asia.

The Gay Coalition's spokesman claims that local perceptions of the coming out process overseas contrasts sharply to the

actual experience of almost every Gay Westerner he had ever known. "Even today there is not a single young queer in America who makes that fateful announcement and doesn't go through weeks, months, and even years of tumultuous relations with his or her family. I 'came out' to my parents years ago, he said. We had countless battles on the subject - all they asked was that I not bring the subject up in discussion. This meant that I couldn't talk about the most important person in my life. I have too much self esteem to deny this part of me."

This excuse of Hong Kong queers being rejected by their families as a good reason for remaining closeted is utterly preposterous. Coming out is the most difficult experience for any Lesbian or Gay. Hong Kong is certainly not unique in this way.

Does this educator really know where Lesbians and Gay men are coming from? Chau - one of our most promising and hopeful straight allies uses the word "ambivalent" when asked how he feels about the proposed legislation protecting Lesbians and Gays from discrimination in Hong Kong. Chau believes there are more effective ways of reaching the same goal. One thing remains certain - if he ever does get fired from the University, he can surely get a job with the Home Affairs Branch of the Hong Kong Government.



Out On the Net

by Spode

Spode@sqzm14.ust.hk

Mailing List

While spending all your time surfing Web sites, you may be missing out on the more well-established aspects of the Internet.

Mailing lists and newsgroups don't have graphics, but they are a highly interactive way of exchanging information. Chances are there is at least one which is devoted to any topic you can think of (yes, even that one).

Ok, so what are they? Simply put, they are collections of messages exchanged between people on the Internet who are interested in a specific topic. The big difference between them is that mailing lists send messages directly to your e-mailbox, and newsgroups collect the messages on a central computer (a server) which you connect to to read.

Once you find out what list you want to join, you need to send this computer a subscription message. That will usually be a one-line message like "subscribe hkqueer Edward Spodick" (or whatever your name is). The computer will then send you an e-mail saying you have been added to the list, or that the list is closed and you have to apply to get in. You should also receive a message with information about the list and instructions for using it. **MAKE SURE YOU SAVE THAT MESSAGE!** otherwise you may lose the subscription address and have trouble Unsubscribing later. And you **WILL** want to unsubscribe - after all, how many of us can afford to have all those messages arriving and filling up our e-mailboxes when we are on vacation?

One very helpful service offered by most mailing list programs is the ability to bundle a number of messages into one large digest, and send it to you as a single e-mail message. If you are feeling overwhelmed by the number of messages arriving, consider sending a message to the **LISTSERV** to change your settings to **DIGEST** mode (see, I told you to save those instructions).

The largest searchable database of Internet mailing lists is at <http://www.liszt.com/> You can have a great time just putting in keywords and seeing what lists are available!

You might want to join the local **HKQueer** mailing list, which has a low 'message volume' (number of messages per day). You can do this by sending a message stating 'subscribe hkqueer' to macjordomo@sqzm14.ust.hk You can find out more about this list without subscribing by sending the message 'info hkqueer' to the same address; or by looking at <http://sqzm14.ust.hk/hkqueer.html>

P.S. This month's most interesting web 'find' has to be **DONALD'S HOME PAGE**, which rapidly became infamous due to an article in *Apple Daily*. It has already been censored from **HKnet** and its mirror site has disappeared from **HK Netvigator**. It should soon be moving to **Asia Online**. Check the listings at <http://sqzm14.ust.hk/hkgay/hkgay-world.html> to see if its link is back up. See you next month for information on Newsgroups.

Neo Nazis Strike

Three local **RFSL** (Sweden's Gay and Lesbian groups) clubs have experienced attacks against their premises during the last two months. And say local Gay activists there are clear links to the Neo-nazi movement.

On the 27th of August, 1996, the police anonymously warned of a bomb outside the **Helsingborg** club. The caller said that the reason for the bomb was to protect the **Aryan** race. The police found a hand-grenade in a plastic bag outside the club, and had to close the whole area before the bomb could be safely removed.

A few days later the discotheque **Touch**, run by **RFSL Gothenburg**, received a bomb threat. The disco was evacuated and searched by the police, who found that it was a false alarm.

In **Sundsvall** the local **RFSL** club was attacked by a group of aggressive young men, who tried to enter the premises. The attack took place a few days after the local news paper published a letter to the editor demanding that 'paedophiles and homosexuals' be 'exterminated'.

Sweden has, in the 90's, experienced a number of anti-Gay attacks and Neo-nazi violence:

1990 August:

A Gay man is stabbed to death by two Neo-nazis in **Gothenburg** after having visited a Gay discotheque.

1991 August:

A heavy bomb is detonating at the entrance of the **RFSL** centre in **Stockholm**.

1991 Autumn:

The police in **Gothenburg** capture two men with a heavy bomb intended for a **RFSL** club.

1992 January:

A violent skinhead attack against a **RFSL** club in **Vaexjoe**.

1995 March:

In **Vaesteras** the ice-hockey player **Peter Karlsson** is stabbed to death with 64 wounds by a 19 year old male Neo-nazi.

1995 November:

The **RFSL** club in **Sundsvall** is attacked by 20+ skinheads.

We are
finished

...together
no more

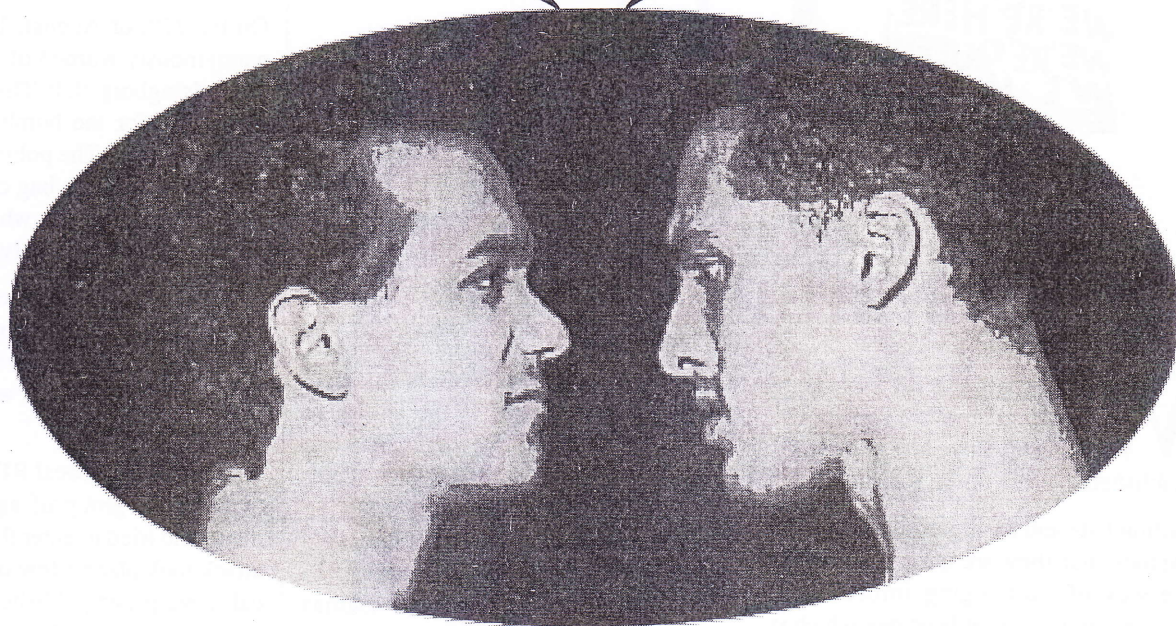


Photo Designed by Contacts Magazine

The famous Gay couple Bob Paris and Rod Jackson have broken up.

In a statement by Paris, the bodybuilder/model couple said: "Rumors have been circulating in the Gay community regarding the status of our relationship, and while neither of us is comfortable discussing the very private aspects of our lives, we want to address those rumors directly to prevent any misunderstanding."

"For the public record, we have been apart for the last year and were separated for a year before that. The past two years have been an extraordinarily difficult time for both of us as we have faced the dissolution of our marriage. The details and reasons for our separation are complicated, painful and personal, as they are when any marriage fails."

And while our marriage was lived in the public eye for many years, its demise is not a subject either of us can expand upon in the media. We have tried to handle the breakup in a mature, quiet fashion, and are trying now to find new ways to still be in each other's lives.

"We tried our best to make our marriage work," the always-publicity-sensitive couple continued. "We loved each other deeply and had ten years together. Seven of those years were spent as activists for Gay rights and we were fortunate to have been able to do some very difficult, rewarding and exhausting work together. Like so many couples, we found ourselves in very different places, and our partner

ship could no longer be the source of joy and shelter it was for so long. Living and working so much in the public eye, our marriage took on a life of its own, and our full schedule of Gay rights activism often came at the expense of sustaining our personal relationship."

"We share the disappointment of those of you who looked up to our marriage as a role model — no one feels that disappointment more keenly than we do," Jackson and Paris said. "But as individuals we need to move on and look forward, as any other couple, Gay or straight, would at this point in their lives. We both remain completely committed to the cause of making the world a better, safer place

for Gay, lesbian and bisexual youth. We both remain deeply committed to the concept of equal marriage rights, and we both still believe in the magic of love."

Paris and Jackson got married in 1989, after Paris came out publicly in the July 1989 issue of the muscle magazine *Ironman*. Thereafter, they spent several years as sort of free-lance Gay role-models — showing Gay and straight people that two All-American guys could fall in love and live happily every after.

They made scores of speaking and television appearances, and released a coffee-table book of photos of themselves.

On Tuesday, 10 September 1996, the Romanian Parliament agreed to a change in the Romanian criminal code which severely INCREASES the punishment for homosexual acts. In a surprise move, homosexuality becomes a criminal act under all circumstances. The previously proposed "Paragraph 200" made homosexuality punishable when it constituted a "public nuisance." It was feared by activists that this paragraph would be used by authorities to harass Lesbians and gay men. Protest actions against Paragraph 200 have already been initiated by ILGA, Amnesty International and the International Gay Lesbian Human Rights Commission (IGLHRC).

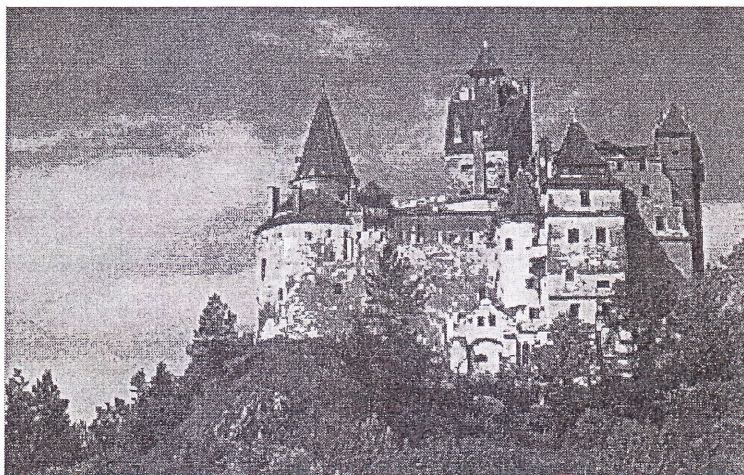
This latest development brings far worse news: the possibility of from six months to three years incarceration for homosexual acts committed in private and from one to five years imprisonment, if such acts constitute a public nuisance.

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe,

as well as the European Parliament, have strongly urged member states to change their legislation to end discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, and Romania, as a member of the Council of Europe since 1993, has been specifically asked to decriminalise homosexuality. Romania is the only state in the Council of Europe that criminalizes homosexuality.

Romania increases persecution

by Scott Long



In the voting, 165 MPs voted for the new harsher measures, twenty were against, and eleven abstained. During the debate, When an allusion was made to the stated positions of international human rights groups, a Deputy referred to those groups as "organisations of degenerates." Another Deputy estimated that 35% of members of the European Parliament are homosexuals.

Because the chamber's version differs from that of the senate, another meeting is required to finalise document, but this could happen as soon as next month.

The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) last month said that Universal Pictures' new offering Bulletproof was homophobic, citing overblown use of hackneyed anti-Gay stereotypes. The Brillstein-Grey/Robert Simonds production, released 1st October, stars Damon Wayans as an undercover police officer assigned to protect a small-time drug smuggler played by Saturday Night Live veteran Adam Sandler.

Bullet Proof

by Alan Klein

According to GLAAD, Bulletproof's homoerotic subtext-the ambiguous more-than-just-friends camaraderie between Archie Moses (Sandler) and Rock Keat (Wayans)-provides the set-up for the film's one-note homophobic punch line. Newsday's John Anderson reported that Bulletproof is riddled with "derisive Gay references" and Jami Bernard of the New York Daily News wrote that this "coming-out comedy for closet cases" is laced with "homophobe jokes."

Bulletproof's Gay-baiting, however, turns fatal in the film's climactic scene. After drug dealer Frank Colton (James Caan) tries to make good on Archie's promise to perform oral sex on him, Director Ernest Dickerson uses an outmoded anti-Gay formula to kill off the character. As

he lay dying from a bullet wound Archie tells Colton that he is getting what he deserves. Colton ends up paying with his life for his out-of-the-closet remark. GLAAD asserts that this violent and patently homophobic scene has the potential to lead to anti-Gay and Lesbian violence.

"Bulletproof could have elevated the buddy film genre to a higher level, but instead it shoots itself in the foot with sophomoric and dangerous anti-Gay taunts," said Alan Klein, GLAAD's communications director. "At a time when Hollywood is making great strides to more accurately represent Lesbians and Gay men on film, this low-brow feature only serves to exacerbate homophobic stereotypes."

FORBEAR

by L.B.

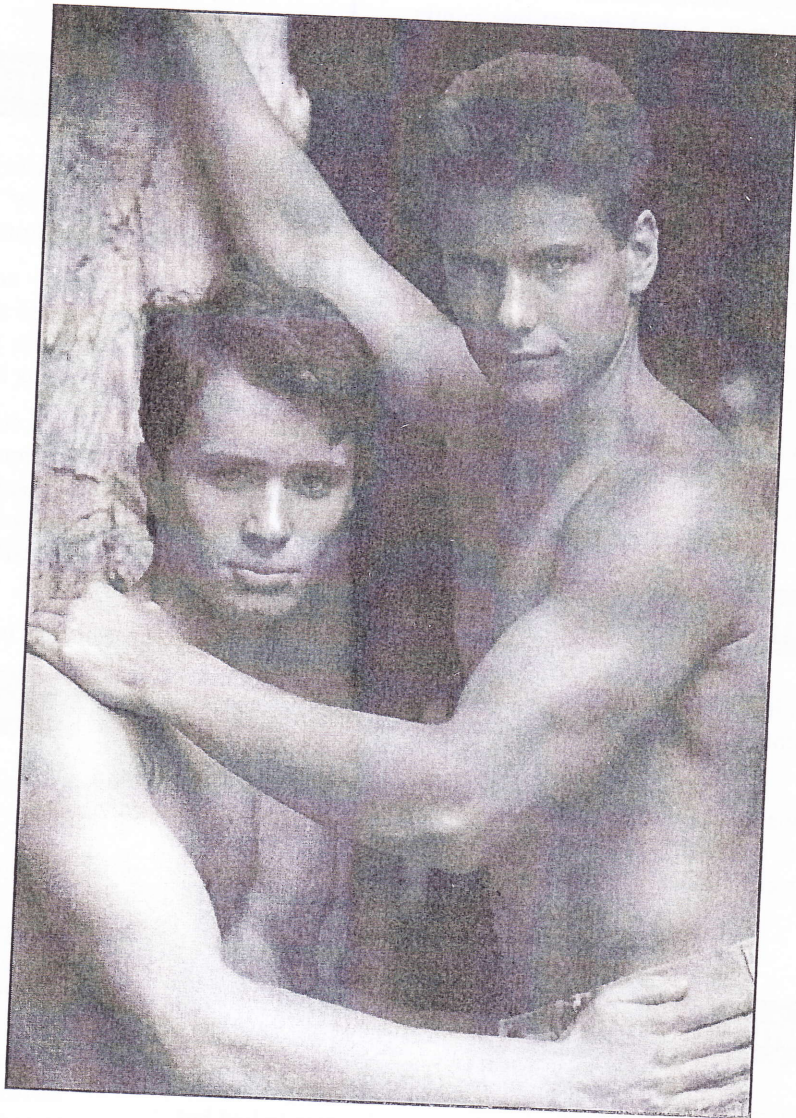
What is it to forbear?

To let go and ride the waves of another's emotions and feelings, to relinquish yourself to someone else's passions or desires, and to finally feel the freedom that is etched the outspread wings of a sparrow, as it curves and dips gently on the hidden eddies of the winds, invisible to our senses, but the essence of reality to the spirit. Trapped in the floodgates of possibility, afraid to be swept away, I cling tenaciously to the darkness that rides in the dust ridden corners of my heart, and I feel like begging the world, which is wholly deaf, and selectively blind in self-contemplation, to take away my burdens, and leave me free, for a time, if only for a single sweet moment, in order to allow me to open up to myself and listen to the sweet music that is inherent to the blood in my veins. Why am I alone? I am alone because unconsciously I have made a conscious choice that I am unworthy of anything but my own self-degradation. I have no truck with pity, nor feelings of self-loathing, or even feelings of self-denial. I indulge in the mishaps of my own devising, and I eat and drink the bittersweet nectar of my own failings, clawing at tear slicked stone, trying to crawl to the heights of forgiveness that beckon so close, and yet beyond the reach of even

the purest soul. I am the sparrow, and I float lazily along, until I am snatched from the comfort I know, but heart breaking pain, terror, and loneliness. The eagle is coming, and its cruel claws hold the irredeemable truths that create the sum of my being, and the whole of the meaning that I embed into the truths of the world. I am an animal, no more or less, my spirit does not make me transcendent, it makes me guilty of treachery against the damned. Who am I to decree that the righteous are worthy of Heaven, and the slothful wasters are blessed with hell? In order to judge I must myself be judged, and there to I fall prey to the ignorance of fear, and the blindness of power. Rambling hearts wander in the ancient places of the earth, trapped in unforgiving stone, yet blessed with near immortality in the minds of the living. But who remembers the living? Who recognises the value of those who labour and toil day and night? Is it the starving child, as its voice is raised in hunger wracked cries to the dead gods of Olympus? Is it the homeless matron, in her Volvo suite, sustaining her livelihood, on the crusts of day old charity? Who recognises the struggle that takes place in my dim imagination? Am I not worthy of praise? Am I not worthy of fortitude and succour? Inside of me I carry all the meaning of

the world. Webster has no hold on the definitions that I tote in my hollowed out, empty, double fisted palm. It is my right to laugh in the face of the purely stupid, as they struggle to comprehend. What is the meaning of rage? What is its use? Its use is to enfold me in the towering embrace of purpose. It is fuelled by the emptiness that is hollowing out my insides, and it allows me to take another step into the future. Rage is destruction, rage is consummation, rage is dignity, and it is disgrace. I fear the day when my rage has consumed all that I am, and reiterated it into a smouldering mass of year old activism. Wake up to the sound of Jonah's horn, before it is blown at the gates of your hallowed halls. Who is it that can hear my heart beat? In my loneliness it is the sound of a thousand drums beating, calling Kunte Kinte home across the oceans secrets. Under the stars, under the moon, and under the sun the refrain of singular pain is shouted from my mightiest muscle into the oblivion of existence. Answer me, answer it, life is forever without purpose. Wake me in the light of a new tomorrow. Today carries more pain than any mortal can handle, and so I transcend mortality, and in my prison of primal singularity I become a God.

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Update.

Out The Bad Boss

Bosses who bully and discriminate against their Gay employees risk exposure by callers to a telephone hot-line jointly launched by *The Pink Paper* and the Trade Union Centre (TUC) last month. The hot-line, which is a product of a unique partnership between Britain's highest circulation weekly Lesbian and Gay newspaper and Britain's trade union centre representing nearly 7 million workers, will run three days a week from Congress House in London.

According to the TUC, Britain's 1.3 million Lesbian and Gay workers lose out on a range of benefits from pension rights for partners to promotion. They claim that second class treatment is fuelled by the absence of anti-discrimination legislation to protect Gays and Lesbians.

TUC general secretary John Monks said: "It is time to out bad employers and show them that prejudice and second class rights are unacceptable. Everyone should have the right to fair treatment at work regardless of their sexuality."

Rent Boys

Lloyds of London now insures British rent boys (male prostitutes) against accident and sickness, reported *The Pink Paper*.

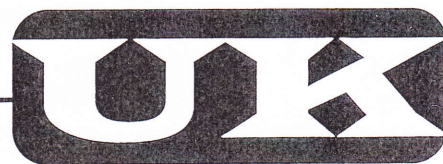
"Sex Workers' Occupational Policy" holders who claim loss of earnings due to a sexually transmitted disease will be classified as having an "industrial illness."

London Underground

London Underground, which operates London's MTR system, has rejected a condom-advertising poster that shows two men in bed but has accepted one that shows a man and a woman embracing in what looks like a pool of semen, reported London's *The Pink Paper*.

Bob Harrison, spokesman for Safeguard Forte, the gay condom promoter, called the straight poster, produced by the Durex company, "far more provocative and tactless than ours. We're talking about a non-confrontational picture of two guys who are quite clearly in love," he said.

But the Underground responded: "We may be in the mid-90s, but things haven't come far enough for there not to be outrage over an advertisement showing a gay couple. Basically, there is still a lot of prejudice out there."



Health

Health Ministry says Gays who were treated with "aversion therapy" to make them straight deserve compensation from the doctors who abused them.

Such therapy – no longer available in Britain – usually involved showing homosexuals Gay pornography while administering strong electric shocks, or drugs that cause vomiting.

The ministry's statement came in response to a demand for comment issued by Peter Tatchell of the activist group OutRage, which itself was responding to new interviews with aversion-therapy victims by the BBC and the Gay publications *Thud* and *Gay Times*.

"Those doctors have wrecked lives," Tatchell said.

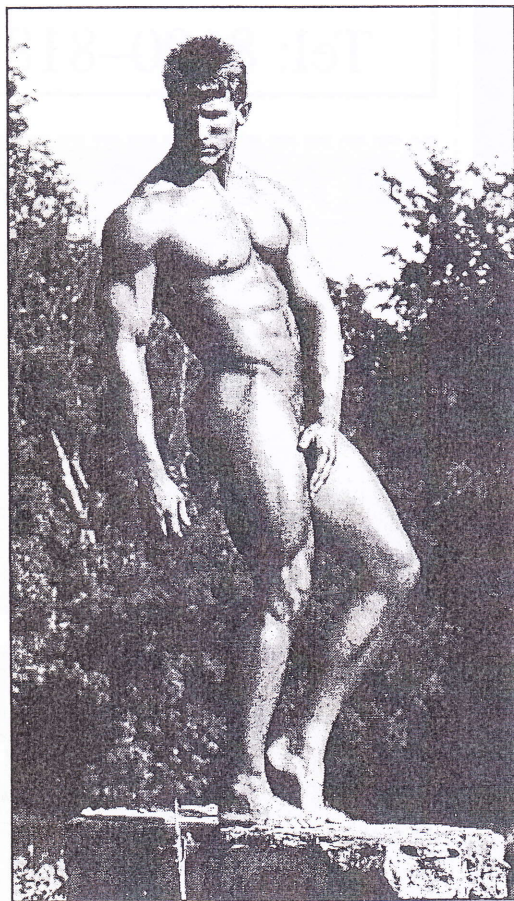
Exhibition

A review of the current exhibition of Robert Mapplethorpe's work in London.

"Mapplethorpe was fascinated by sex-loved sex, lived (and died) for sex – not perhaps for sex in itself but because he felt sex, and especially his kind of sex, took him out of the ordinary world and out of his ordinary self. The child of abnormally, aggressively "normal" parents, nothing horrified him more than mundanity. Nothing terrified him more than the notion that he might one day subside into normality (as he would have seen it). The notion of developing any stable sense of self at all filled him with a kind of perverse quasi-monastic revulsion. "When I have sex with someone, I forget who I am," he once said. "For a minute I forget I'm even human."

The Exhibition is open until 17th November times 10 am - 6 p.m. Hayward gallery South Bank Centre, London SE1.

Beautiful Cards



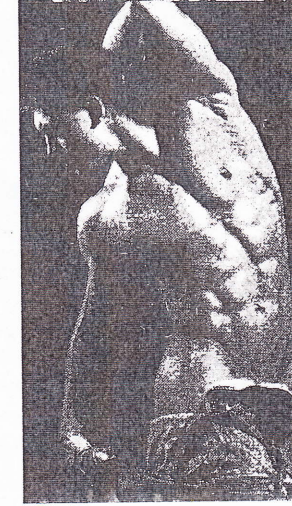
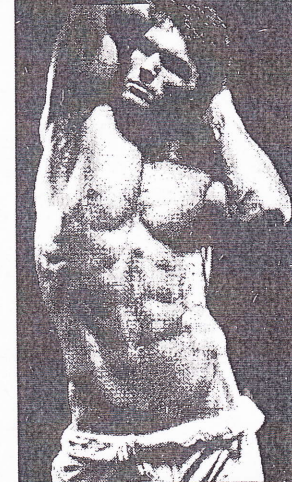
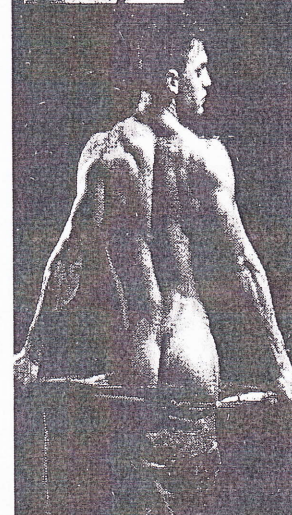
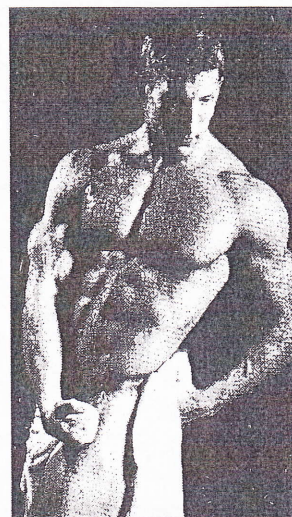
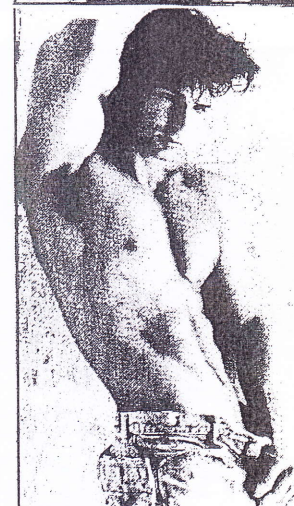
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Catholics Attack Virgin

by Andrew
Mast Brother Sister

The Catholic Church has once again dragged Gay and Lesbian bar Virgin Mary's before a tribunal in an attempt to get the venue's name changed. Former Catholic Church archbishop Sir Frank Little and his replacement George Pell are named as two of the party leading the fight against Virgin Mary's.

Since the bar first opened earlier this year, Catholics have bombarded both the Stonnington Council and the venue with complaints about the name of the Commercial Road establishment, which they claim is blasphemous.

A case against Virgin Mary's had already been thrown out by the Victorian Security Commission after the found nothing offensive about the name. The Catholic Church, along with representatives of the Islamic community, have now taken the case to the Australian Security Commission.

Counsellors representing the church groups at the Administrative and Appeals Tribunal presented photos showing members of the drag nun organisation Sisters Of Perpetual Indulgence at the Sydney Mardi Gras as evidence that the bar was an insult to Catholics. Ian Sutherland, QC for Virgin Mary's, accused the church's evidence as irrelevant and stood firm that the bar's name was not offensive.

Bill Tianoulas, owner of Virgin Mary's, says he is prepared to appeal the decision if the finding is in favour of the church groups. He told *Brother Sister*, "Personally, I believe they (the Catholic Church) are pursuing us only because we are a gay and lesbian establishment."

The council is also interfering with the bar's name, forcing them to keep Virgin Mary's neon sign covered until they have a separate hearing to decide if its deemed offensive. If the council find it offensive, the bar will be still be allowed to trade under the name but will have to remove the sign and take the name off their awnings.

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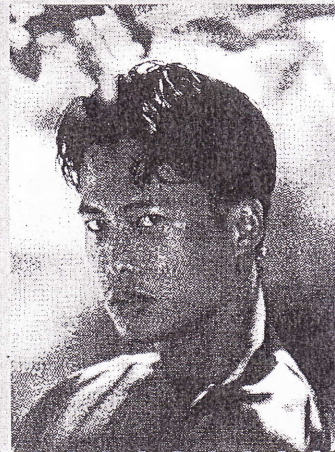
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My photo

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Purges, whether intestinal or ideological, don't end cleanly. In 1994, the International Lesbian and Gay Association expelled three member groups that support consensual relationships between men and boys. The expulsions were an effort to win US approval for ILGA to keep consultative status to the United Nations' Economic and Social Council. Critics of the expulsions wondered who would next be found to be politically inconvenient. Sadomasochists? Drag queens?

But even the critics wouldn't have imagined that two years later, a majority of ILGA's members were set to be suspended, on grounds of ideological taint. Faced with resistance to a demand that members sign a pledge that they do not condone sex with minors or be kicked out of the group, ILGA's leadership seems to be stepping back from the brink.

Despite the expulsions, the US didn't alter its opposition to ILGA's UN status. Indeed, shortly after the throwing out the North American Man/Boy Love Association (NAMBLA) and two other groups, ILGA was pressured by the US to get rid of another Gay organisation, the Munich-based Society for Sexual Equality, (known by its German acronym, VSG), simply for hosting a discussion group about pederasty. In a last-ditch to meet US objections to its UN status, ILGA decided last June to impose an ideological litmus test on all its constituent organisations. By January 1, ILGA members had to sign a pledge agreeing that they do not 'promote or seek the legalisation'; sex between adults and minors, or else face automatic suspension.

But the demand for a oath of conformity has angered some of ILGA's key supporters. As the deadline approached, more than half of ILGA's members had not yet signed the pledge, according to a letter ILGA sent members last December. ILGA will not say how many groups signed on by the deadline. "At the moment we are not releasing that information,"; ILGA's spokesperson Andy Quan told *The Guide*. But in a meeting last December, ILGA's secretariats decided not to suspend members who have not signed the pledge. This saved ILGA from sudden dismemberment.

Two North American groups that have been part of ILGA's organisational backbone have said they would rather leave ILGA than sign.

The pledge is not in line with [our] policy on the rights of children, nor with our belief in an open and democratic process,"; says a memo from the San Francisco-based International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission, which served until last year as ILGA's Action Secretariat. IGLHRC's board voted unanimously not to sign the letter of confirmation.

In January this year, the Toronto-based Pink Triangle Press, publisher of the Toronto, Vancouver, and Ottawa Gay newspapers *Xtra*, quit ILGA in protest over the demand for an oath of conformity. Pink Triangle had been one of ILGA's major donors, giving it US \$13,000 in 1993 to see it through one of its chronic financial crises. Though it disapproved of the expulsions, Pink Triangle's

"It is our belief that the campaign against ILGA's association with the UN on the grounds that some of its member groups condone pedophilia is not concerned to limit child abuse but rather to limit Gay and Lesbian advancement."

"A principled response would be a statement that the views of member groups on matters other than Gay and Lesbian issues are not ILGA's concern, coupled with an analysis of the underlying homophobia that is the true content of this campaign. If that means foregoing an association with the UN, so be it."

ILGA says it needs to distance itself from its past support for consensual relationships between adults and minors if it is to be a credible representative for the interests of Lesbians and Gay men to governments and international bodies.

But when kiddie sex hysteria is such that novels like *A Boy's Own Story* get seized by Canada Customs for depicting 'child sex,' and men who give blow jobs to willing teenagers face life sentences, can the manufactured panic about 'corruption of the young', be cleanly distinguished from the fight for Gay liberation?

Sworn to Conformity Has international Gay group purged too much?

Ken Popert said it had remained in ILGA because "we feel whatever errors it has made are outweighed by its value as an international forum."

"Now, however, it seems that our mere acquiescence in these circumstances, odious as we may find them, is not enough to retain our membership in ILGA"; Popert wrote in Pink Triangle's resignation letter to ILGA. "Now we must implicate ourselves in ILGA's opportunism by signing an endorsement of the very actions we have disapproved."



Dear Fifi,

I have seen men with pierced ears, nipples, and lately various other parts of the anatomy of which I dare not mention in such a conservative magazine such as this. But recently in your magazine I saw an advertisement for a product called a "cock ring." What is the purpose of this product? How does one use it? How can I be measured for one?

Signed - Looking for a ring leader

Dear Leader-less,

Cock rings are similar, but different to the body piercing jewelry which have become trendy in the past few years. Archaeologically, cock rings have graced the penises of the beefiest Egyptian men since before the Jews discovered how much fun circumcision was. It is a little known fact that Tutankhamen was found with a solid gold ring on his organ. It was at this point in history that cock rings became pervasive in the Egyptian courts, and simultaneously began to fall in popularity among the trendy. The question still remains as to whether cutting off

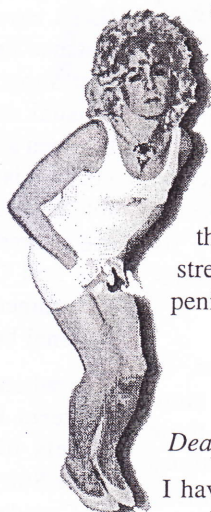
foreskin was the cause of the decline of cock ring popularity, or the result of the boredom of paedophiles as life expectancy increased past the age of 26.

The purpose of the cock ring is to make sex a bit more interesting, or at least a bit more kinky. Of course people will claim that they prolong a man's erection, but I've never met anyone who actually needed one when I was around. To use one, the penis must be flaccid. (a few girls will be able here) First place the scrotum and testes inside. Then pull the limp penis through the front of the ring until it encompasses all vital parts, similar to how a good sex partner will wrap his lips around

Once the ring is in place, it will stay there until all sex is complete.

In theory, the cock ring stops the blood from draining out of the engorged penis. Some people claim that it also prevents the cum from draining into the penis. But if anyone who goes to bed with you tells you that they really do have therapeutic effects, you'd better watch your wallet.

I happen to have several cock rings. My favorite has spikes on it, and this makes the experience even more interesting. Most of my best leather cock rings have been stretched out, but this really isn't a problem as everyone in this town knows that my penis is as large as a battleship (and as lethal as one too.)



Dear Fifi,

I have fantasies of having sex in wide open places where no one is around to watch. Do you have any suggestions?

Wide Open

Dear WO

Why don't you just paint a mural on your bedroom wall? Or, if you have plenty of time, and really don't want to do it in a crowd, you could just wait until we hold Hong Kong's next equal opportunities rally. If all goes according to plan, you won't have to worry about a single soul.



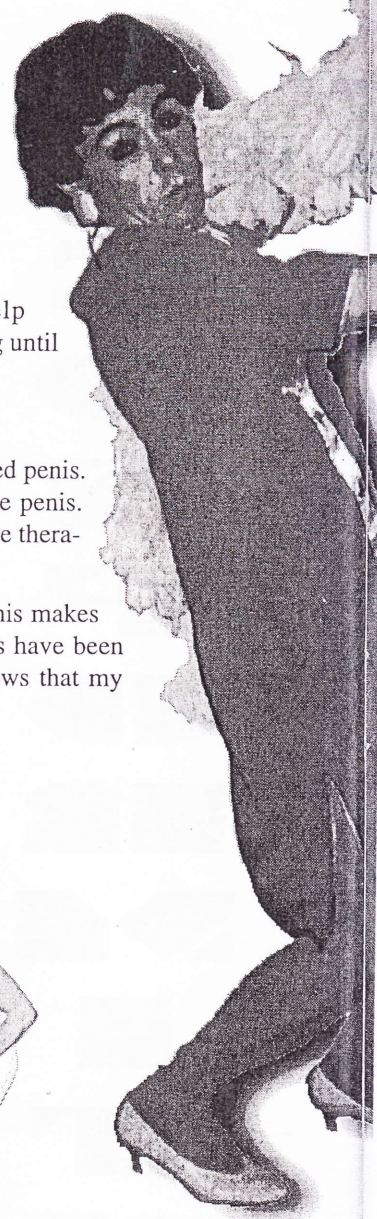
Dear Fifi,

I have been having dreams lately that involve fecal matter. It is a horrifying thing to dream of being covered in someone's feces, but one of my friends who translates dreams claims that it is considered very lucky to be dreaming of feces. Have you ever heard this to be true?

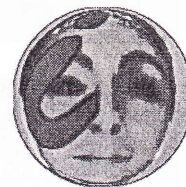
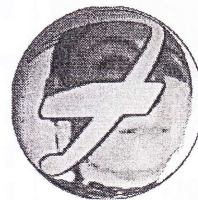
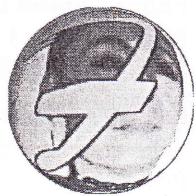
Fredrick

Dear Fecal Freddie,

Your friend is right. Being covered with shit in your dreams is very lucky. It's far better to be plopped with pooh in your dreams than when you're patrolling for that perfect person in Pacific Place! If this doesn't seem obvious to you, then I hope you and I never have the chance to get to know each other any better than through this column!



Mademoiselle Fifi du Mi-sommet



Dear Fifi,

The other day I was colouring my hair with my usual recipe of pure white peroxide. As I was squeezing the bottle of it's last few drops, I noticed how it resembled the size and shape of the man I have always wanted to meet - large, round and hard.

When I had finished with my hair, I still had this wonderful object in my hand, but with no place to put it. Since I hadn't done the wild thing for quite a while, I decided to help the environment, and recycle the bottle. So up the poop shoot it went! At first it was a little big, or perhaps I was a bit tight, but I gradually relaxed until it felt right. In and out it went until I noticed that I could no longer feel it - it has slipped inside of me!

I panicked! I tried sticking my fingers up inside to try to remove the bottle, but with no luck. I didn't know what to do. I briefly considered going to the hospital to have it surgically removed, but decided against it. I thought about inviting some close friends over to help me out, but I was too embarrassed. I even tried to suck it out using the plumber's helper.

In the end, I fell asleep in terror, and awoke the next morning and took the most stupendous bowel movement I have ever seen. I guess nature has a way of taking care of us!

The Peroxide Penis Poacher

Dear Poacher,

Thank you for sharing that most intimate story with us.

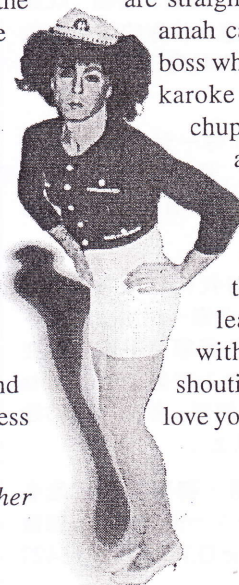
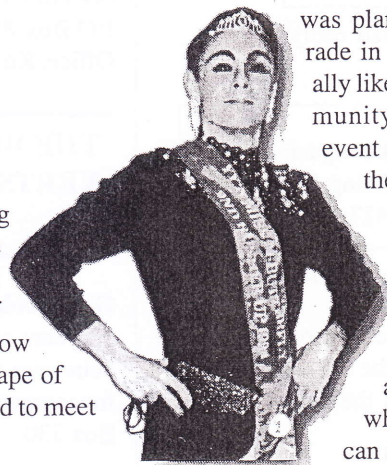
Dear Fifi,

I heard that the Gay Coalition was planning a Gay Pride Parade in the near future. I'd really like to participate in a community driven empowering event such as this. When will the parade take place?

A Happy Foot soldier

Dear Soldier Boy,

Hong Kong will have a Gay Pride Parade when Hell freezes over. I can see it now - it will be a grand affair with thousands of participants. There will be no hairdressers (as all hairdressers in Hong Kong are straight) but there will be one amah carrying a banner for her boss who has chosen to go to the karaoke for the afternoon, one chuppie talking on his portable in his chauffeur driven BMW, 30 mothers walking on behalf of their sons who still claim they are straight, and at least one Canto-Pop star with 50,000 or so fans all shouting "but Leslie, we still love you!"



Until next time, keep the condoms coming, and if you have any more scintillating questions, you can reach Fifi at Box 555 Contacts Magazine.

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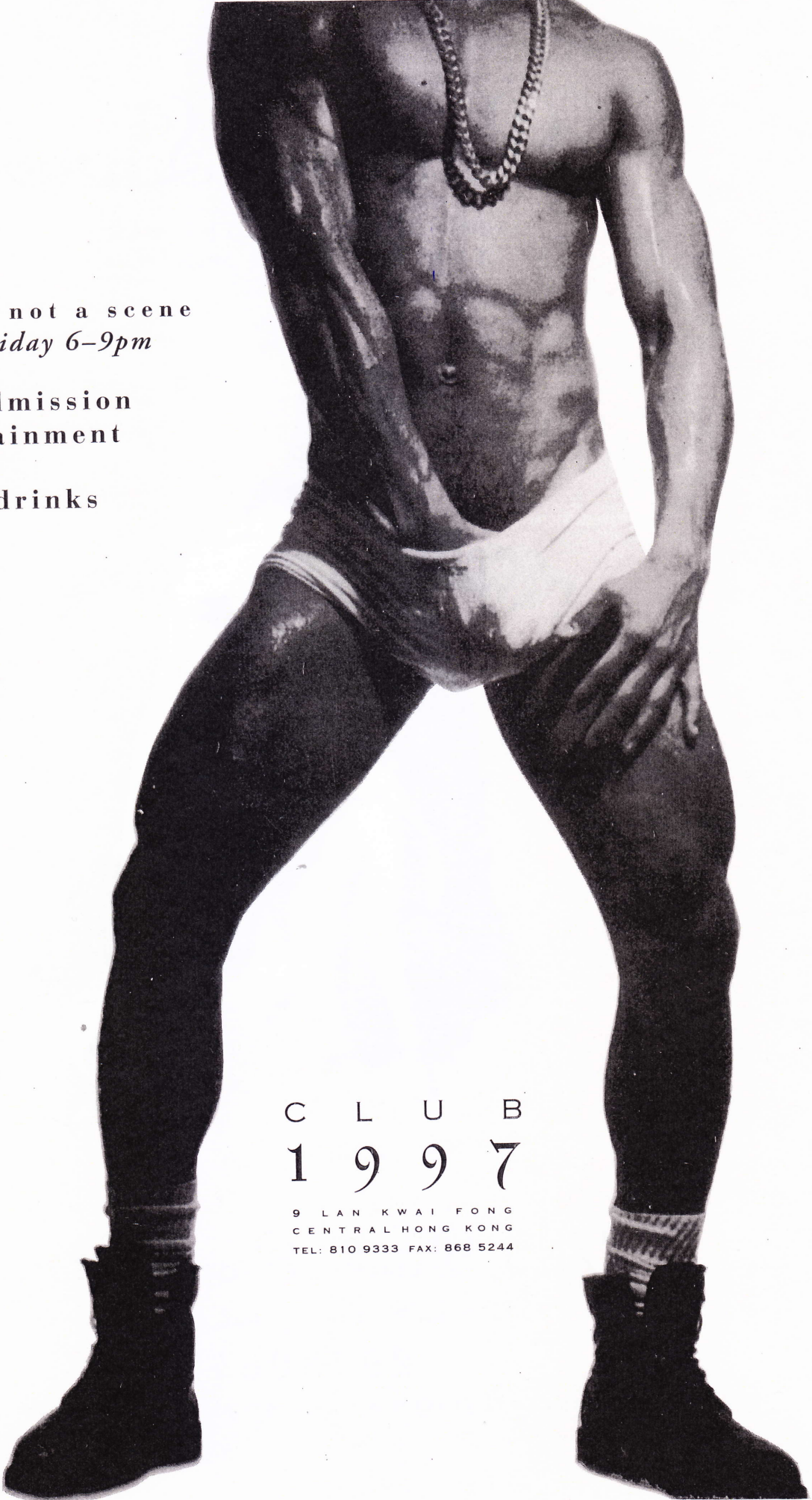
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